

**City of San Diego
MEDICAL MARIJUANA/CANNABIS TASK FORCE**

**MEETING SUMMARY FOR
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2001 @ 12 NOON**

**EXECUTIVE COMPLEX - 5TH FLOOR
1010 SECOND AVENUE**

(For Information contact Ed Plank,
Task Force staff, 619-236-6433)

Attendance:

The following Task Force members were in attendance: Chair: Juliana Humphrey, St. Clair Adams, Dale Kelly Bankhead, Dr. Al Best, Larry Chaidez, Steve McWilliams, Jerry Meier, Dr. Daniel Pearce, Conley Major and Mike Barbee.

City Staff: Ed Plank, Alison Glennon, Paul Cooper, Sgt. David Rohowits.

Introduction

Dr. Al Best stated that the Police Chief should be invited to an upcoming Task Force meeting to share his feelings himself, also, Dr. Best congratulated Juliana for writing a great letter, which was dated December 12, 2001, to the Police Chief on the Verification ID Card Program.

Draft ordinance still under review, the Task Force should see another draft copy the first week of January for final consideration. Two issues still under review the amount of plants one can have; and the number of patients a primary caregiver may care for. A motion was made by the Chair: Juliana and seconded by St. Clair, to either e-mail or phone all Task Force members for their vote pertaining to the draft ordinance becoming a final version. As a note, the docket closing would be January 15, for the item to appear before the full Council on January 29. This is a tentative date and depends on other paperwork being submitted in time.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Legislative Efforts Sub-Committee

Dale discussed the Barney Frank legislation, which is currently not active, which would, if passed, emphasize the States's rights in adopting legislation on medical marijuana. Senate Bill 187 has not passed yet, a companion bill is being looked in to. Ed stated that when the session is active again the Governmental Relations Department, will send a letter of support for the bill by the City Council. It is all a timing issue right now. The Community Services Department staff will be implementing the

Verification ID Card Program, if passed by Council.

Medical Research Sub-Committee

Mike suggested a possible field trip to UCSD to see the medical research models and will attempt to try and draw doctors in to testifying in front of the City Council during the Verification ID Card item, tentatively scheduled for the January docket. Dr. Pearce suggested to Mike to obtain a copy of the study to pass on to the City Council which will list the background information and related proof relevant to this study. Mike indicated that the project at UCSD has received DEA approval.

Law Enforcement Sub-Committee

St. Clair went over the Police Department's arrest policy which was reviewed by the Law Enforcement Sub-Committee to make recommendations to update the current policy. The sub-committee suggested to eliminate the two questionnaires all together and made several other recommendations. When a final version is complete, a cover letter will be sent to the Police Chief asking for his comments related to the sub-committee recommendations. Dale suggested that this should all take place after the Verification ID Card item has passed Council. St. Clair made a motion to exclude Paul Cooper from the Task Force, seconded by Steve for discussion purposes. Later, St. Clair made an amended motion to keep Paul Cooper as an advisor from the Police Department, but requested, that a representative from the City Attorney's Office, Elmer Heap was suggested, be appointed, solely to communicate the City Attorney's opinion and render legal advice on matters related to the Task Force. Motion was passed unanimously.

Patient Advocacy Sub-Committee

Steve ran a seven minute video of his garden explaining the benefits and drawbacks. The tape was given to the Council which depicted his garden, showing the inadequacies of how many plants he has compared with as an example, under the Oakland guidelines, which allows for 144 plants. Steve stated that the Sonoma guidelines were best for outdoor growing. Juliana mentioned that there are two ways to grow indoor and outdoor and both produce different affects on growing and that any Task Force proposal on grow gardens, must be discussed by everyone before the item goes to the full Council.

Overview of Surveys

Jerry briefly went over the early results of the patient/doctor surveys. When all of the survey data has been analyzed, a written report will be distributed to the Task Force and to the doctors who participated in the study. The total number of patient surveys which were valid, totaled to 169, and there were 524 doctor surveys which were valid. The results indicated that patients and doctors agreed that the medical provider was the preferred method in obtaining information about medical marijuana.

Public Comment

An individual commented on being ill and wanted to know why more gardens cannot be set up to assist

with people who are sick. Sometimes there is no diagnosis by a doctor, and the patients are the ones who suffer.